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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 10, 1876. NO. 105.

FIRST EDITION.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

THE VESSEL WRECKED OFF HARWICH.

LONDON, January 8.—It is now ascertained that the vessel ashore on the Shipwash sand, in the North Sea, is the bark Hunter, from Christiania, for an English port. The tug which put out from Harwich at midnight has succeeded in saving the crew.

COTTON MILL BURNED—LOSS $250,000.

LONDON, January 8.—The Belgrave cotton mills, near Oldham, Lancashire, containing 50,000 spindles, has been burned. The loss has been computed at a quarter of a million dollars.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR GERMAN PRIESTS.

LONDON, January 8.—The Duke of Norfolk, President of the Catholic Association of Great Britain, calls for subscriptions to aid the persecuted German priests. The Duke subscribes $5,000 and Cardinal Manning $1,500.

THE GERMAN CHURCH WAR.

In Germany the clerical conflict is, at present, at a standstill. Both sides seem to be tired of the lengthy struggle and desirous of an agreement. The Government desists from preparing the new Ecclesiastical Regulations bill, and is even showing clemency in the execution of the prosecutions which are provided in the measure now in force.

CARDINAL LEDOCHOWSKI'S RETURN.

Great preparations are being made by the German Catholics to celebrate the restoration to freedom of the ex-Archbishop of Posen and Gneisen, his Eminence Cardinal Ledochowski. In case the Prussian Government expels Archbishop Ledochowski from his see, he will go to Rome and take his seat among the Cardinals in the Sacred College.

GREAT BRITAIN AND ANDRESSY'S NOTE.

LONDON, January 10.—A Berlin dispatch says it is reported that the Turkish Ambassador at Paris endeavored to influence the Ingiz Decazes against the ratification of Count Andressy's note, and consequently it is inferred that the Porte was assured that Great Britain would reject it.

THE "TIMES" GIVES SPAIN A BLAST—ADVICE TO THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING CUBA.

LONDON, January 10.—The *Times*, in a leading article, says: "The notice in the *Gazette* of January 8, warning mariners not to approach the Spanish coast east of Bilboa, on account of danger from the Carlist batteries planted there, will suggest the thought that our Government is treating a serious matter too lightly. Being at peace with Spain, we have a right to trade with any part of her territory. The Government of Spain is bound to protect the property of our countrymen when within three miles of her coast. Were any seamen murdered, or our ships burnt in ports of her harbors, we should know that the criminals be punished and compensation made. The Spanish Government might plead that it is too weak to control its unruly subjects, and too poor to pay. If such an excuse were false, we should invite that Government to do justice or prepare for reprisals, which would amount to a declaration of war. If that Government were really powerless, we should have the right to take its place and defend the lives and property of our subjects. These elementary facts suffice to show the duties of our Government in the present case. If the Carlists injure British ships, we must look to Madrid for redress. Either King Alfonso or we must assume the police of the Spanish coasts. The plain duty of Spain is to place a fleet off the coasts, such as will silence the Carlist batteries. If that Government will not protect its own coasts, it must pay for any damage the rebels may do. We fail to see why Spain should be freed from the duty of guarding her own coasts. Her navy is powerful that in case of a rupture with the United States she would have a great advantage in the commencement of the struggle. Some vessels may be stationed off Cuba; that is an arrangement with which we cannot concern ourselves. If Spain insists on having the luxury of rebellious colonies at a time when wasted by civil war at home, she must take the consequences."

The article goes on to state the habitual leniency of other powers to Spain, the result of which is that her statesmen presume on a continuance of foolish and treacherous impunity. It would be better for all parties if Spain was held accountable for her actions. The United States might set a good example, by insisting that Cuba be no longer allowed to become the plague, instead of the pearl of the Antilles. The article concludes by recommending that Spain be told that she will be held accountable for every shilling of damage done to foreign vessels by Carlist shells. When, doubtless after preliminary bluster, this remedy would be found easy. Spain would see clearer the danger of dallying with civil war.

Spain.

CANNON AND AMMUNITION FOR CUBA.

MADRID, January 8.—The Spanish Government has ordered from Herr Krupp's foundry, at Essen, six eleven-inch breech loading steel cannon, with 600 rounds of ammunition, for delivery in Cuba at the earliest moment. The contract has been made at the special request of General Jovellar. Each gun will cost $120,000.

GERMAN VESSEL CARRYING CONTRABAND GOODS.

MADRID, January 9.—An official dispatch has been received here which states that a Spanish man-of-war has captured a vessel under the German flag, loaded with contraband of war.

FINANCIAL COMMISSIONER TO CUBA.

MADRID, January 9.—The *Oronista* is confident that the Government will not accept the resignation of Senor Rubi, Financial Commissioner to Cuba.

France.

CO-OPERATION IN TURKISH REFORM.

PARIS, January 8.—France and Italy have decided on joining the three Imperial Powers, Germany, Austria and Russia, in their course on the Eastern question, and hence will support Count Andrassy's project of reform in Turkey.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

It will not be all smooth sailing for England in the Suez Canal business, for the French shareholders are busy fomenting opposition to Great Britain.

Marine News.

ANTWERP, January 9.—Steamer Nederland, from Philadelphia, arrived.

LONDON, January 9.—Steamship China, from New York, arrived out.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—Cloudy and decidedly cooler weather and rain, with north to west winds and rising barometer, followed by clearing weather.

The lower Mississippi is rising rapidly, and causing some apprehension of crevasses.

The examination of Captain Sawyer, at San Francisco, on a charge of willfully wrecking the Orpheus, has resulted in his discharge.

The steamers Ethiopia and State of Indiana, from Glasgow; Adriatic, from Liverpool, and Herman, from Bremen, have arrived at New York.

The total number of hogs slaughtered in Cincinnati this season is 398,789. The number slaughtered at the same time last season was 392,802.

The old frigate Macedonian, captured by Commodore Decatur in 1812, will probably be placed on exhibition at Philadelphia during the Centennial exhibition.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee on Saturday, ex-Governor Claflin was authorized to invite the National Committee to hold the National Convention in Faneuil Hall.

The hard times in Montreal are affecting all classes. A terrible case came to light on Saturday in a fashionable looking house on Victoria street, where a family was found suffering from lack of food and fuel.

A special dispatch to the New Orleans *Picayune* from Bayou Sara reports the sinking of the steamboat Belle of Yazoo in twelve feet of water twelve miles above that place. No lives were lost. It is believed the boat can be raised. Her cargo consisted of 465 bales of cotton and 2,500 sacks of cotton seed.

The city debt of New Orleans is $21,000,000. An effort will soon be made to compromise with the bondholders at six cents on the dollar, the city issuing new consolidated bonds at this rate in lieu of the outstanding obligations. The Police Board have agreed to a reduction of their appointment from $490,000 to $400,000 for police purposes.

There was a successful experiment at Milwaukee, on Saturday, with Gray's harmonic system of multiplex telegraphy. A loop was arranged by way of Horicon to Portage and back by way of Watertown, a distance of 200 miles. Over this single wire eight messages were sent and eight received at the same time. The experiment was witnessed by a number of telegraphers and representatives of the press.

CHICAGO.

More Lightning to Strike—Building Frauds, Harbor Frauds and Other Evil Practices to be Exposed.

CHICAGO, January 8.—To-day's *Times* says there is a strong suspicion that the "official lightning" has not yet struck itself out, and that Chicago will receive more attention of quite as startling a character as that which has gone before. There were other rings in Chicago engineered by political craftsmen, besides the whisky combinations. The documentary evidence is not thus far in shape, but it is safe to say that as soon as certain preliminaries are completed there will be some organic newspaper personages in Chicago in as circumscribed quarters as the whisky men are in now in that prolific source of secondrelism, the Custom House. Chicagoans have heard a great deal; but there are mines of even more direful revelations yet to be worked from Washington. Unless all signs fail, it will be shown that a corrupt organization has been maintained here during the last ten years upon the fruits of whisky frauds, building frauds, harbor frauds and a variety of other sharp practices, which only politicians long in office and well versed in the craft of the trade can venture on with any degree of safety.

CLEVELAND.

Movement for Repeal of the Resumption Act.

CLEVELAND, January 8.—A meeting will be held in this city on the 13th inst. for the purpose of considering what measures are necessary to secure the repeal of the act of the last Congress known as the Resumption act. A memorial to Congress has been extensively circulated in the city and received the signatures of a very large number of prominent business men, petitioning the repeal of so much of the act as provides for the payment of United States legal tender notes in coin upon the first day of January, 1879, and authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to sell and dispose of bonds of the United States for the purpose of enabling him to redeem such legal tender notes; also representing that, in the judgment of the petitioners, the enforcement of the resumption clause of said act would be exceedingly disastrous to the business of the country.

TOLEDO.

Division in Board of Trade—New Produce Exchange to be Organized.

TOLEDO, O., January 8.—At a meeting of the Board of Trade here yesterday the directors submitted amendments to the by-laws increasing the initiation fee from twenty to two hundred and fifty dollars, and fixing the limit of membership at one hundred. The proposition failed, the members being about equally divided: hereupon those favoring the amendments met this morning to organize a new Produce Exchange based upon the views set forth by them at the meeting yesterday. The principal object of this faction is to provide a fund for aiding in the construction of a new chamber of commerce.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 8, 1876.

SUIT OF A TWEED BONDSMAN AGAINST CITY, COUNTY AND STATE OFFICIALS.

On Friday evening Messrs. Field and Deyo, the attorneys of William M. Tweed, served upon the Mayor a complaint made by Mr. Charles Develin against the city, the county, the Attorney General, the Corporation Counsel, Jackson S. Schultz, John H. Keyser, Andrew J. Garvey, Richard B. Connolly and James H. Ingersoll, which alleges that a conspiracy was entered into by Keyser, Garvey, Connolly and Ingersoll, together with James Watson, about the year 1869, to defraud the county of New York by procuring the payment of false and fictitious claims; that these fraudulent claims, or many of them, were paid; that upon the discovery of these frauds—which took place in 1871—it became the duty of the Board of Supervisors of the county of New York, and of the Mayor, Aldermen and community of the city of New York and of the proper officers to make every effort to recover this money, and that this duty remains equally binding to-day. Setting forth at some length the duties of the offices of Attorney-General Fairchild and Corporation Counsel Whitney, the complaint then alleges that, in spite of these duties specified, no action has been brought by them against any one of the conspirators above mentioned, or against their estates, to recover the money so fraudulently obtained, with certain exceptions which are mentioned; that the conspirators, each of them, still have large estates, from which restitution of the money and property so fraudulently obtained could with reasonable diligence be recovered, or at least $3,000,000 or $4,000,000 of it.

Wherefore the plaintiff demands, in substance, that the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty be enjoined from giving any release or discharge to the conspirators; that a receiver be appointed for all the claims against the conspirators; that the receiver be required to prosecute the said conspirators; and that the officers of the city and county who have been guilty of the above set forth neglect be required to make good the loss that may have accrued through their neglect.

GOVERNOR TILDEN REFUSES TO PARDON STOKES.

The following is the letter written by the Private Secretary of the Governor to the counsel of Stokes, declining to grant the application for his pardon:

ALBANY, January 8, 1876.

Thomas W. Pitman, Esq., 108 West Twenty-third street, New York:

SIR: The Governor has received your argument in the matter of the application of Edward S. Stokes for pardon, dated December 10, 1875, with a postscript dated December 29, 1875. He has received within the past year numerous representations and appeals relating to this case, some of which were in writing and others personal. He has refrained hitherto from making a final decision of the case, under the impression—perhaps a mistaken one—that it would be better for the parents of the prisoner, for whom he feels a deep sympathy, that the case should remain undecided rather than an adverse decision should be rendered. As a final decision is now demanded, he directs me to express his sincere regret that his sense of public duty will not permit him to grant the application. I am, respectfully yours,

CHARLES STEBBINS,
Private Secretary.

NEW YORK, January 9, 1876.

LAST OF THE "CRUCIBLE"—OAKEY HALL RETURNS TO THE LAW.

An audience almost as large as the one which greeted him on the occasion of his debut, assembled last evening at the Park Theater to witness the farewell appearance of Mr. Oakey Hall in "Crucible." At the conclusion of the play Mr. Hall appeared and spoke as follows;

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I should be most unworthy if I were not able to return a shadow of thanks for the wonderfully generous treatment I have received at your hands. I remarked during the prison scene one hiss in the dress circle, but this was good, as the gentleman probably thought that when he gets on his prison clothes he will play his part better than I could. As I observe a number of lawyers, and ladies who look as though they might understand Latin, in the audience, I may say to him, "Laudamus ab his." The management have announced that this is the last night of Oakey Hall, but as a particular friend of his, I hope it is not the last of him. The physicians say I must drop the legal harness, but my friends say I must not, and before me at the box-office, in the dressing-room, and everywhere. My friends and enemies differ as to whether I can act or not, but they all agree that I was a good advocate; this probably in the same spirit as we admit when a man is under the turf that he was endowed with all the virtues from his cradle to his grave. After all, perhaps *Macbeth* was right when he said: "At least we will die with harness on our backs."

FAILURE OF WOOLEN DEALERS.

George. W. Beale & Co., No. 77 Reade street, large woolen dealers, have suspended.

Ohio Legislature.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, January 8.—In the General Assembly to-day, bills were introduced to fix the rate of legal advertising at one dollar per square for the first insertion and fifty cents thereafter, rule and figure work to be paid for at an advance of fifty per cent. above rates; to authorize townships to insure the property of citizens on two-thirds vote of electors.

The Philadelphia Chess Club offers playing accommodations and the sum of $250 at least as a nucleus for a fund for a grand international chess tournament, to be held under the auspices of the Philadelphia Chess Club during the Centennial Exposition of 1876.

These was a severe wind storm, accompanied by a light fall of dry snow, prevailed between Cheyenne and Omaha, passing eastward, Saturday night and yesterday. It is a remarkable fact that similar storms have prevailed over the same territory every year for the past five years.

Pearl Mill Two Star Flour.

Marshall, Kennedys & Co. have on hand a large supply of old Kentucky white wheat, from which they manufacture their famous Pearl Mill Two Star Flour.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Ways and Means Committee Calling.

Visits Made to the President and Secretary Bristow.

Third Party Managers in the Field

Randall's Reduction of Salaries of High Army Officers.

Weekly Figures From Treasury Department.

Concentration of Naval Vessels at Port Royal.

North Atlantic Squadron to be Prepared for any Emergency.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 9, 1876.

Reorganization of Republican Committees.

The Resident Republican Committee of the District of Columbia and such members of the Congressional Committees as now hold seats in Congress, will meet tomorrow night to fix a day for the caucus to fill vacancies and reorganize both Committees for the campaign of 1876.

Ways and Means Committee Call on the President.

The Committee on Ways and Means yesterday made their usual annual call upon the President. The President, in the course of conversation, said to Mr. Morrison, the Chairman, that, he remembered his being at the attack on Fort Donelson. Mr. Morrison commanded an Illinois regiment and was wounded. The President said that any recommendations he might have to make during the session he would communicate in the usual form.

Also on Secretary Bristow.

The committee then waited upon the Secretary of the Treasury. Here the conversation turned upon the finances and taxation. The Secretary said that he favored placing a duty on tea and coffee.

Third Party Foolishness.

A few third-party politicians are in the city trying to drum up their cases. The miserable Liberal failure in 1872 seems to have settled that question. All recalcitrant Republicans have now found their way back into the old lines, or deserted permanently to the enemy.

Randall's Army Reduction.

Randall now says that his army reduction only has reference to the salaries paid to the higher grades. This leaves Sherman, Sheridan and the other heroes who saved the Union.

Postal Changes in Pennsylvania.

The following postal changes were made during the week ending January 8, 1876:

Letter carriers—Lancaster, Pa., $600 per pay of Peter C. Hensel to $700 from January 1, 1876.

Re-establishments—Jackson Run, Warren county, route 3120, Cyrus Starrett, Postmaster.

Discontinued—Petroleum Centre, Venango county.

Postmasters appointed—Allen M. Ayres, Canton, Bradford county, vice Edwin Newman, removed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 8, 1876.

CASE OF PAYMASTER SPAULDING.

It is admitted at the Navy Department that the arrest of Paymaster Spaulding at San Francisco is a result of the official inquiry into the Pinney frauds. The details of this investigation will not be given by the departments, as the Secretary does not consider that the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry in this case should be made public. A court-martial will soon be ordered for Paymaster Spaulding.

EX-REPRESENTATIVE PACKARD A REVENUE AGENT.

Gen. Packard, ex-Representative in Congress from Indiana, has been appointed an Internal Revenue agent.

WEEKLY STATISTICS FROM THE TREASURY.

The Treasury now holds $363,002,962 in bonds to secure the national bank circulation, and $18,626,500 to secure public deposits. United States bonds deposited for circulation, for the week ending to-day, $184,000; United States bonds held for circulation withdrawn for the week ending to-day, $732,700; national bank circulation now outstanding, $343,893,094; of which amount $2,100,360 are gold notes. The internal revenue receipts to-day were $470,724 98; for the month to date, $2,091,342 98. Customs receipts to-day, $581,077 93; for the month to date, $3,231,221 70; for the fiscal year to date, $79,254,699 65. The receipts of national bank notes for redemption for the week ending January 8, 1875, are as follows:

	1875.	1876.
New York	$1,801,000	$1,574,000
Boston	328,000	1,481,000
Philadelphia	158,000	140,000
Chicago	88,000	71,000
Cincinnati	30,000	33,000
Miscellaneous	1,033,000	582,000
Total	$3,439,000	$4,181,000

The balances in the United States Treasury to-day, at the hour of closing, were as follows: Special deposit of legal tenders for the redemption of certificates of deposit, $36,755,000; coin (including coin certificates to the amount of $34,241,800), $71,746,145; outstanding legal tenders, $371,827,220; currency, $5,363,190.

HOUSE RESTAURATEUR.

There were fourteen candidates for the privilege of keeping the House restaurant. The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds had forty-five ballots to-day before making a selection. F. Freund, of this city, was the successful candidate. Geo. T. Downing, who has kept the restaurant for some years, therefore retires.

A SOLDIER-SERENADE TO REPRESENTATIVES FORT AND CASON AND THE PRESIDENT.

Representatives Fort, of Illinois, and Cason, of Indiana, were serenaded tonight by their Republican friends, including Union soldiers, at Willard's Hotel—the former having offered a resolution in the House of Representatives instructing the elective officers to give subordinate places to well qualified Union soldiers in preference to soldiers of the late Confederate Army, and the latter having offered a resolution declaring that, all other things being equal, the soldier should have the preference over the civilian in emoluments and public offices. The gentlemen respectively addressed the large audience in support of the principles announced in their resolutions, and were frequently applauded.

After the serenade to Messrs. Fort and Cason, those composing the procession proceeded to the White House and the committee informed the President of their object. He appeared on the front portico, amid cheers, and said he was very glad to meet them, and gave them assurance of his heart beat in sympathy with theirs and that he would do all in his power for Union soldiers. Several of those who lost their places under the recent organization of the House have already been provided with office, and others, it is said, are to be cared for in the same way.

BUNKER HILL SOUVENIRS TO WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY.

A number of ladies and gentlemen from Boston will arrive here on Wednesday for the purpose of presenting Bunker Hill Centennial souvenirs to the Washington Light Infantry Corps of this city. They will be met upon their arrival by a committee composed of honorary and active members of the corps, and at night a full dress reception will be given at the residence of Hon. A. R. Shepherd, where the souvenirs will be presented by Hon. N. P. Banks.

NO MAILS FOR EUROPE TO-MORROW.

The Postoffice Department is advised that there will be no steamer dispatched from New York next Tuesday by the Williams & Guion Line, and consequently there will be no European mails sent on that day.

NORTH ATLANTIC STATION—CONCENTRATION OF VESSELS AT PORT ROYAL—PREPARATION FOR AN EMERGENCY.

The concentration of naval vessels at Port Royal, South Carolina, is in pursuance of a general plan, of the Secretary of the Navy, to make that place the headquarters of the North Atlantic Station, as it presents many advantages over any other port on the Atlantic coast. The geographical position of Port Royal makes it the central point for the North Atlantic Station, and the vessels rendezvoused there can reach Cuban waters and the Gulf, where our interests most need to be looked after, within forty-eight hours. It is the policy of the Secretary of the Navy to have our home squadron larger than any of those abroad, because he believes in being prepared for any emergency which may arise out of the present difficulties on the island of Cuba. While there is no official announcement in regard to the condition of affairs between this country and Spain, it is believed, in well informed circles, that the uncertain tenure which Spain has upon that island may cause that Government to become involved in a difficulty with the United States, when it sees it can no longer hold the island, and thus part with it as a matter of necessity. Another reason, why vessels will be ordered to Port Royal from northern rivers and harbors, where they have been laid up, is to free them from ice during the approaching winter. In case of any difficulty arising, it would not do to have these vessels frozen up at League Island or some other northern port, where they could be of no service; hence the Secretary deems it advisable to have them at Port Royal, where there is no danger of an ice blockade, and in case of an emergency they could be used with effect.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Trial of George D. Lord.

BUFFALO, January 8.—The trial of the Lord bribery case was resumed to-day. A number of former members of the Legislature testified for the defense. The testimony was concluded, and the counsel will proceed to sum up on Monday.

Philadelphia Murderer Convicted.

PHILADELPHIA, January 8.—The jury in the case of George W. Fletcher, charged with the murder of James Hanley, yesterday brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree.

POLITICAL.

Kentucky.

SENATORIAL CONTEST—WITHDRAWAL OF CALDWELL.

LOUISVILLE, January 9.—Hon. Isaac Caldwell announced his withdrawal from the Senatorial contest in the columns of the Frankfort *Yeoman* yesterday morning, "upon a full conviction," he says, "that there is not apparent reason to believe that the further use of my name will create harmony within the ranks of the Democratic party in the contest already warmly waged. This withdrawal leaves the field to Stevenson, Beck, Williams and Leslie. It is thought that Caldwell's support will assist Stevenson very much, and that the contest is now between him and Beck.

The Battle of New Orleans.

PHILADELPHIA, January 8.—The anniversary of the battle of New Orleans was observed to-day by a meeting of the veterans of the war of 1812 at the old court-house, on Sixth and Chestnut streets. Peter Hay occupied the chair, and John B. Springer acted as Secretary. About twenty veterans were present.

The Democratic Campaign Club, of the city of Philadelphia, true to their custom, celebrated the Memory of the Day, and the Hero of the Time, General Andrew Jackson, by giving a grand reception and banquet at the Girard House.

NEW ORLEANS, January 8.—Flags and pennants were displayed throughout the city, and public offices closed in honor of the day. The Continental Guards, recently reorganized under Captain R. Montgomery, and other volunteer military organizations paraded and fired a national salute.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—The anniversary of the battle of New Orleans received to-day no distinctive recognition any where in this city. In former years it was politically celebrated.

NEW YORK, January 8.—The flags were up on the City Hall and other public buildings, and on private buildings along Broadway and elsewhere to-day; the shipping also, especially vessels plying to New Orleans. The Veterans of the Seventh, Adjutant J. Gould Warner, in commemoration of Old Hickory, hoisted the colors on the Central Park flagstaff, as his habit has been on this day for years.

Governor Hayes' Personal Staff.

COLUMBUS, January 8.—Governor Hayes has chosen the following gentlemen on his personal staff: A. T. Wikoff of Columbus, to be Adjutant General; C. W. Karr, of Cincinnati, Assistant Adjutant General; A. Leslie E. Lee, of Columbus, Private Secretary; Rodney Foos, of Columbus, Executive Clerk; A. T. Brinsmade, of Cleveland, and L. C. Weir, of Chemtati, Aides-de-Camp.

The Osage Ceded Land Case.

LAWRENCE, KAN., January 8.—It is stated here that intelligence has been received from Washington that the Supreme Court, by a vote of seven to two, has decided the celebrated Osage ceded land case in favor of the railroad companies. It is believed that, if the rumor proves true, the companies will make satisfactory terms with *bona fide* settlers.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Mrs. Barton, the last survivor of the Adin tragedy in Cleveland, died Saturday morning.

Mr. Thomas Barbour, a prominent merchant of New York, has, by the death of his father in Belfast, Ireland, fallen heir to an estate valued at over $20,000,000.

While the Prince of Wales and his party were out on a pig-sticking expedition near Lucknow, on Saturday, Lord Carrington received an accident by which his collarbone was broken.

A telegram from Moscow says that Dr. Strousberg, the bankrupt railway contractor, has been released from prison on condition that he will remain in Moscow until his trial has terminated.

Mr. George Grant, of London, the founder of the Victoria Colony in Kansas, sailed from New York for Europe on Saturday, in the Celtic. It is his intention to purchase in England some of the best blooded stock for importation to this country.

Captain Benjamin Downing died in New York Friday evening, at the age of ninety-two years. He was born in Stamford, Conn., on the 24th of March, 1783. Captain Downing was the oldest living Odd Fellow in the world, having joined the order in England in 1807.

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—SITUATION—BY A Young Lady, who understands telegraph operating. Address, this office.

WANTED—200 COAL MINERS—Steady work. Apply immediately at KELLING & CO.'S, head of Twelfth street, South Side.

WANTED—I WISH TO RENT A HOUSE, suitable for manufacturing purposes. Address C. A. SCOTT, Monongahela House, City.

WANTED—SITUATION—AS TRAVELING Salesman for some good, reliable house. Salary not so much of an object as employment. Address, stating terms, employment, &c., P. O. Box 98, Elm, Fayette county, Pa.

WANTED—BUILDING — WANTED — Building a large Building, suitable for a Publishing House, in a central location. Address, stating terms, employment, &c., PUBLISHER P. O. Lock Box 285, Pittsburgh.

WANTED—POWER SHOP ROOM—on second floor, with power to drive four Blacksmith Fires, Drill, Lathe, Press and Tip Hammer, 4 by 6 inch. Must be well lighted. Address, stating terms, &c., Box A. A., this office.

WANTED—TO MAKE AN ARRANGEMENT with a good man to make the coming year of the sale of a new line of goods on a new plan in each of the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin or Michigan. Men of ability required. J. C. TILTON, Box 1043 Sixth street.

WANTED—PLACES—AT $1 50 TO $2 per week, by 100 Girls, in cities or country. Best of reference furnished. Families can change girls as often as they wish from one place to another. Employment Office, No. 1 Sixth street, 3 doors from Suspension Bridge, Pittsburgh.

WANTED—SITUATION—IN A Wholesale Grocery, Produce, or Flour House, by a competent young man, as Salesman, Shipping Clerk, and good Collector. Can bring a good trade to city and country. Will make himself generally useful. Address, for three days, Box "G," Commercial office. Reference first class.

WANTED—A MAN THOROUGHLY experienced in the construction of Coke Ovens and the manufacture of Coke, for a Iron Works in Canada. Address, stating experience, references, and wages expected, R. M., care of WILLIAM D. MARVEL, Coal and Iron Merchant, 111 Broadway, New York.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

WANTED—A PARTNER—IN THE Insurance business, already well established. To a strictly reliable and energetic man of good acquaintance and influence, this presents a favorable opening. Address D. N. B., Commercial office.

FOR SALE—A RETAIL BOOT AND Shoe Store well located, and doing a good business. Reasons for selling, other business on hand and no time to attend to it. Stock on hand about $3,000 to a low figure—two thousand dollars. For particulars inquire 1141 Wood street.

WANTED—A PARTNER—IN A well established Dry Good and Grocery Business. A live, active man that can take charge. Must be well recommended. Capital required from Four to Five Thousand Dollars. Address Box 163, Salem Ville, Columbiana county, Ohio.

BUSINESS CHANCE—AN EXCELlent Opportunity Offered to Enterprising Men: Private Sale of the Missouri Brass Foundry, Steam and Gas Pipe Works, of the late John Kupferle, situated at the corner of Second street and Washington avenue, in the city of St. Louis, Missouri. The above mentioned well known establishment, situated in the heart of the city, and in operation a long series of years and having a very extensive and valuable custom, is now, by leave of the Probate Court of St. Louis county, offered for sale upon reasonable terms. For particulars apply to JOSEPH DEGENHART and CHAS. SEITZ, Executors, No. 600 North Second street, St Louis, Mo.

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT OR SALE—NEW TWO-story Frame House, with Bay Window, containing 6 Rooms, Vestibule and Hall. Water in Kitchen; Lot 45x200, with Grapevines, &c., located on Grandview avenue, Mount Washington, Thirty-fifth ward, commanding the finest view in the city. Rent moderate to a good tenant. For particulars, &c., apply to E. ABEL, Commercial office.

FOR RENT—DWELLINGS—THE Three-story Brick Dwelling House, No. 159 Center avenue, containing 9 large Rooms, with Bath and Water and good yard. House in best of order throughout. Apply at 154 Center avenue. Also, two Dwellings on Center avenue, each of 5 Rooms, finished attic and good cellar, both in first rate order. Rent, $20 00 per month. Apply as above.

FOR RENT—A HANDSOME BRICK Dwelling House, on Cliff street, Parlors, Dining Room and Kitchen on first floor; Gas, dry Cellar, 4 Bedrooms and finished Attic. Water and modern improvements. The Lot extends from street to street. Will be rented reasonable. Possession given immediately. For particulars apply to W. S. EVANS, Commercial office.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—CHEAP—1 NO. 3 "ARGAND" Base Burner, for Anthracite Coal, as good as new. Apply at 116 Water street.

FOR SALE—LEATHER AND RUBber Belting, Hose and Oils of every description, by THORP & CO., No. 144 Water street.

FOR SALE—TWELVE NEW AND second-hand Engines, 2 Portables, 6 Second Engine Lathes, 1 Planer, T. CARLIN, corner of Lacock and Sandusky streets, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS —New and Second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portables, from 2 to 50-horse power, now on hand. JAMES HILL & CO., corner Marion avenue and P., Ft. W. and C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—LARGE STOCK OF NEW and good SECOND HAND BOILERS in complete order. Cornish Inspector's certificate of test with each boiler. Repairing done promptly at the West Point Boiler Works, No. 19 Water street. R. MUNROE, Successor to WATSON & MUNROE.

FOR SALE—SECOND HAND MACHINERY.—One 8 by 30 in. Engine and Boiler; one 3 H. P. Portable Engine and Boiler; two Planers and Matchers; one 36-in. Hall Shingle Machine and Jointer; three Iron Lathes, 15 in. by 6 ft.; two Iron Lathes, 20 in. by 7 ft.; one 22 in. Drill Press. All in good order. M. E. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—NO. 243 ALLEGHENY avenue, Allegheny city. The House is nearly new, has 10 Rooms, is well planned and the neighborhood first-class. The lot is 33 feet 9 inches by 140 feet deep to paved alley or Alley. Will be sold low and very accommodating terms. Apply to THOS. J. STEWART, corner Ohio avenue and Wood street.

FOR SALE OR TO EXCHANGE—ONE of the finest business properties on Fifth avenue, between Smithfield and Market. Will sell at a low figure, and take in exchange a business property on Liberty street, Smithfield street or Wood street, north, say $20,000, about $25,000 cash and balance mortgage on the property, to suit buyer, with interest. Apply to THOMAS F. STEWART, corner Fifth avenue and Wood street.

FOR SALE—78 ACRES OF LAND IN Wayne township, Lawrence county, Pa., 2½ miles from Wampum Station and furnace. 38 acres improved, 20 acres in timber. The land lays very nicely, good soil, all in one fence, and watered by springs; 4 veins of superior coal, iron ore, &c., &c., on said premises, and close to the same; good young orchard, house, stable, corn crib, &c., &c. Price $2,500, in easy payments. Send for a Descriptive List of Properties for sale at my office. Inquire of KID WILSON, Beaver Thursday morning, at No. 91 Grant street, Pittsburgh, or at office, 434 street, Beaver Falls, Pa

DIVIDENDS.

BANKS.

FIFTH NATIONAL BANK.—DIVIDEND.—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of FIVE (5) PER CENT. on the capital stock, out of the earnings of the last six months, payable forthwith.

HALSEY WILLIAMS, Cashier.

January 6, 1876.

THE SAFE DEPOSIT COMPANY OF PITTSBURGH.—DIVIDEND.—The Directors of this institution have this day declared a dividend of THREE (3) PER CENT. out of the earnings of the past six months, payable forthwith.

J. H. HILL, Cashier.

January 3, 1876.

WEST END SAVINGS BANK, Carson street, Thirty-fourth ward.—The Directors of this Bank have declared a dividend of THREE (3) PER CENT., on the average capital of the last six months, payable on and after both inst.

H. WILSON, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, Pa., January 4, 1876.

SOUTH SIDE SAVINGS BANK.—DIVIDEND.—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of FOUR PER CENT., payable on and after this date.

M. BIGGER, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, January 3, 1876.

ARTISAN'S DEPOSIT BANK.—DIVIDEND.—The Board of Directors of this Bank have this day declared a Dividend of FOUR PER CENT. on the amount of Capital Stock paid in, payable on and after January 15th, 1876.

L. F. STARK, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 31, 1875.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE IRON AND GLASS DOLLAR SAVINGS BANK have declared a dividend of FOUR PER CENT., out of the earnings of the last six months, payable forthwith.

H. STAMM, Cashier.

PENN BANK.—A DIVIDEND of FOUR PER CENT. will be paid on demand, free of tax.

W. N. RIDDLE, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, January 3, 1876.

AMERICAN BANK.—THE DIRECTORS of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of FOUR PER CENT., payable on demand.

WM. FLOYD, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, January 3, 1876.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK.—DIVIDEND.—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of FOUR PER CENT., payable on demand.

J. LAKE, JR., Cashier.

Pittsburgh, January 3, 1876.

PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK.—DIVIDEND.—The Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of FOUR PER CENT. on the Capital Stock, out of the earnings of the last six months, payable forthwith, free of tax.

W. McCANDLESS, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 31, 1875.

FARMERS' DEPOSIT NATIONAL BANK.—QUARTERLY DIVIDEND.—The Directors have this day declared a dividend of FOUR PER CENT. on the Capital Stock, out of the profits of the past three months, payable on demand, free of taxes.

S. GEORGE, Jr., Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 31, 1875.

FREEHOLD BANK AND BUILDING ASSOCIATION, 68 SMITHFIELD STREET.—The Directors of this bank have this day declared a dividend of Five Per Cent. on the profits of the last six months, free of tax.

THOMAS STEEL, Secretary and Treasurer.

Pittsburgh, December 31, 1875.

INSURANCE.

OFFICE ARMENIA INSURANCE COMPANY.—The Directors of this Company have this day declared a Dividend of SIX DOLLARS PER SHARE (free of taxes) out of the past six months, free from all taxes and payable forthwith.

E. A. CURTISS, Secretary.

OFFICE OF BOATMAN'S FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, 92 Fourth avenue, DIVIDEND NO. 11.—The Board of Directors of this Company have this day declared a Dividend of SEVENTY-FIVE AND FIFTY CENTS PER SHARE, as follows: ONE DOLLAR PER SHARE to be credited on Stock Due Bills, and ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS PER SHARE to be paid in CASH on demand.

JOHN R. GLONINGER, Secretary.

OFFICE OF B

The Commercial.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 1875.

THE foreign exports from Philadelphia last week amounted to $584,357.

GOVERNOR HAYES, of Ohio, will be inaugurated to-day, when Rise Up WILLIAM ALLEN will finally sit down.

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT ROBERT CURRY has kindly furnished this office with the Pennsylvania School Report for 1875.

THE sufferers by the MORGAN raid, in Ohio, are again appealing to the Legislature for relief. It is not probable that they will succeed in getting anything.

THE coinage of the several United States mints for last month was the largest for some time, amounting in value to $3,844,708. The increase is especially marked in subsidiary silver coinage. The amount of fractional silver coin now in the mints and Treasury is about $11,000,000.

THE Southern Confederate Brigadiers in Congress are perfectly willing to vote for the Centennial appropriation if the Northern members will concede the pardon of JEFF. DAVIS as the price of their support. This would be what Poor Richard would call "paying too dear for the whistle."

SATURDAY was the sixty-first anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. The enthusiasm with which it was formerly the fashion to celebrate the day has pretty much oozed out. Even the Democratic majority in the National House of Representatives took no notice of the occasion.

"THE Chinaman is not even a citizen, although Messrs. Chin Tin, Hong Chung, and Chock Wong, residents of San Francisco, have declared their intentions of be coming citizens."—*New York Times.*

The latter named gentleman has been granted his full papers of citizenship They were delivered to him last week.

A RELIGIOUS paper suggests, as the embodiment of its theories upon the financial question, the comprehensive text, "Thou shalt not steal." Good, as far as it goes; and if to this be added the Apostolic injunction, "Owe no man anything," this financial creed will be as complete as it is short.

THE serious work of the Congressional session will begin to-day. There ought to be a change made in the time of the meeting of Congress. To assemble on the first of December, and in a fortnight adjourn for fifteen or twenty days is ridiculous, since a whole month is thereby practically thrown away.

IT is now intimated that the Democratic Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee will revoke the appointment of the committee clerk, who was so lost to decency, as to glory in the assassination of LINCOLN by naming his son after the murderer. "Thus conscience doth make cowards of us all."

THE opposition to forced resumption is steadily growing. Next Wednesday a mass meeting of the business men of Cleveland, Ohio, is to be held for the purpose of considering what measures can be taken to influence Congress to repeal the act of last year; and other cities, East and West, are preparing to follow suit.

RETRENCHMENT, like charity, should properly begin at home; but Congress, which proposes to whittle down the pay of military cadets from five hundred to four hundred and fifty dollars a year, has not once thought of applying the pruning knife to the salaries of its members. This is mere cheese-paring statesmanship.

A CORRESPONDENT thinks we deal somewhat harshly "with the third-term project, so-called," and suggests that we moderate the character of our strictures thereon. We cannot gratify him. Just so long as there is enough of the third-term carcass left to catch on the toe of our boot, just so long shall we continue to kick it. What was it born for, except to be bounced?

THE Appropriation Committee of the House of Representatives at Washington has begun its labors, and proposes to save forty millions on the estimates of the Departments. It has already agreed upon the Pension, Diplomatic and Military Academy bills, and the saving on these items will be about five millions. Five millions will take many and many such little sums as this to make up the muckle they started out to save.

THE New York *Tribune* should at once make application to MAM BLANCHARD, of Milford, N. H., for a reversion to her son JAMES, when he grows a few years older, and so secure him for its future Washington correspondent. Such an audacious and persistent young liar as this personator of CHARLIE ROSS does not turn up every day, and an enterprising in dependent paper should hasten to avail itself of so grand an opportunity.

IT APPEARS that Lord HOUGHTON, who recently made an extended tour in this country, returned home with a cock-and-bull story to the effect that the American people felt so very kindly toward their British neighbors they actually want a full length statue of King GEORGE III. to occupy a conspicuous place at the Centennial Exhibition. Lord HOUGHTON has intimated that this has actually been suggested to him "by the authorities." It must have been the "authorities" of New York, then. We do not know of any other city in the country which can begin to compare with it for Tory flunkeyism.

HERE is a question the President will please permit us to ask him: If the amount of church property, not taxed, looks alarming to him, what does he think of the $700,000,000 spent by our people annually, for intoxicating drinks? We do not recollect any President's message that has sounded the tocsin of war over the "Chicago Advance."

The total value of spirituous and fermented liquors produced in this country last year was only $94,000,000, instead of $700,000,000, as above stated; and the receipts of internal revenue, mainly drawn from the taxes upon whisky and beer, were $110,000,000. So far is this from being an exemption from taxation that it is safe to say that no other article is so heavily taxed, in this country, as whisky and beer.

BARNUM, the philosophic showman, lectured in New York the other day on "The World, and How to Live in It." We make the following homely and sensible extract, which deserves to be read and pondered over here:

"The only real economy is to regulate the outgo to the income, so that the latter shall be greater than the former, and every year we shall be worth more than the preceding one. The real comforts of life cost but little; it is the eyes of others, not our own eyes, that ruin us; it is the fear that Mrs. Grundy shall have something to say that governs us. The real waste of life in comparison to what is earned, but it is this outside show that is so unfortunate for Americans. 'Pay as you go' is the philosopher's stone, nearer than any alchemist can get it."

THE official statement of the foreign exports of domestic products from Philadelphia last year, as published in the papers of that city, shows an increase in value of $2,057,816 over the total of the year previous, the aggregate shipments being $31,936,727, of which $12,289,114 were in American vessels, and $19,647,613 in foreign ones. The exports of petroleum were 64,104,309 gallons, of which 56,112,341 gallons were refined, 5,197,815 crude, and 2,494,114 naptha. The export of wheat was 3,392,034 bushels; corn, 4,601,586 bushels; wheat flour, 160,748 barrels; cotton, 13,551,977 pounds; bacon and hams, 22,813,606 pounds; beef, 12,473,786 pounds; lard, 14,056,634 pounds, and cheese 2,443,550 pounds. The foreign exports from Baltimore during the same period fell off $389,815, as compared with 1874.

NOTWITHSTANDING the eloquent and conclusive denial of the widow of General GEORGE H. THOMAS that during any period of the rebellion he wavered in his fealty to the national flag, we find the cruel slander that he was not at first opposed to the secession movement still ringing the rounds of the Democratic press. The fact is that, from the beginning, he denounced the rebellion as a mighty crime; and he contributed quite as much as any other military leader, both by precept and example, to its overthrow; for he never lost a battle, and at Nashville the rebel army was so completely crushed as never afterwards to appear as an organization in arms. So pronounced, indeed, was General THOMAS in his opposition to treason that, when reproached by his family for his adherence to the Union cause, his answer was that, unless they could write him more loyal letters, the correspondence must cease, and it did cease until the termination of the war. Nay, his family carried their bitterness to him so far as to refuse to surrender him the sword which Virginia presented to him for his brilliant services during the Mexican war, and he died without receiving it. It is worse than idle to talk of the disloyalty of such a man.

GLADSTONE is credited with the aphorism that the way to elevate the working class is by keeping your children in it. The aphorism might be varied, and yet be as truthful, by making it say that the way to elevate your children is to make workers of them. The elevation of the individual will elevate the class to which he belongs.

Much of the wrong-headedness of this age is attributable to the silly prejudice against work. The young farmers crowd to the cities to become clerks and drudges in the stores; the children of mechanics want to get into the learned professions; and the children of the rich want to live upon the earnings of their parents. All of these seem to shun honest labor as disgraceful, and the work of the country is left to those who have not yet learned to shun it.

The way of escape from this atrocious blunder is to teach the children of the rising generation a better lesson; and we know of no plan better than that suggested by GLADSTONE'S truism to elevate labor by teaching it to our children. The odium now attached to labor will thus be removed, and the character of the laboring class will be improved by an infusion of new blood into its veins.

In England, and in all countries where class distinctions are kept up, labor belongs exclusively to the lowest classes, and it is a degradation for any one socially above those classes either to work or to know how to work. The increasing intelligence of the age has doubtless made many clear-sighted men ashamed of this state of things, and suggested the elevation of the laboring class as the remedy for it; but how is it to be elevated? GLADSTONE solves this problem by saying, "Elevate the working class by keeping your children in it;" which is equivalent to saying, "obliterate all class lines so far as work is concerned."

We have, in this country, no permanent class discriminations, and our laws know nothing of their existence; but we have not been slow to import from Europe the hatred of labor which grows out of such distinctions. It is time we were getting rid of it; and if a natural, born aristocrat like GLADSTONE can see the only way of escape from such a folly, surely a republican people can afford to follow it. Work is ennobling, if viewed properly; and in the constant mutations of our continually shifting society, which change the rich man into a poor one in the twinkling of an eye, the ability to work is his surest resource in the hour of his supremest distress.

OUT of a batch of over 500 bills thus far offered in the House of Representatives at Washington, 156 are for the relief of Southern claimants, who ask for an appropriation of about ten dollars for every one that they lost by the war. The Commission heretofore appointed to examine into claims "the amount of which in eleven cases was $355,629, of which $39,908 33 only was allowed and $215,721 64 disallowed. Adding the first-named sum to the amounts stated in the fifth general report, the whole amount of claims disposed of during last year was $4,051,974 70; amount allowed, $832,510 56, and disallowed, $3,519,464 20." Even at this low rate—one dollar or every eight claimed—the President, in his annual message, complains that the Commission has been altogether too liberal in its allowances, which we think probable. The House of Representatives may prove more kind to the claimants than the Commission has; but, if it serves them right, it will rule them all out and create a court for them, in which they can be heard judicially. If the House cuts down the army and navy, and reduces the appropriations generally, only for the purpose of lavishing what is saved upon these hungry Southern leeches, it will create a current of corruption wider and deeper than has ever yet swept through the halls of Congress.

THE Governor of Kentucky, in his annual message, makes a loud call for emigration, and depicts in a glowing manner the various advantages and inducements offered by that State to settlers from other parts. He could, however, spare himself the trouble, as there will be any general response to his invitation so long as the barbarism indicated by the last report of the State Superintendent of Education continues to prevail there. The report says:

"At least one-third, and probably more, of the Kentucky children never attend school. They reach maturity to repeat the sad spectacle of bookless homes, of purblind sight, of pitiless poverty and unblushing crime. They entail additional burdens upon wealth in defraying the expenses of good government, they swell the census of prisons and almshouses, and furnish the material with which blushless demagogues debauch the franchises of citizenship. In a country where every man is a sovereign, it is appalling when we reflect that now one-third of the entire voting population of Kentucky cannot read the ticket they vote."

THE United States District Court of St Louis has just rendered a decision on a point in patent law which, it being the first of its kind, will naturally furnish an important precedent. Under the patent laws, wherever there are two patents covering the same invention, any person interested in any one of them may have relief against the interfering patentee by suit in equity against the owners of the interfering patent, and the court in such case may adjudge either of the patents void in whole or in part. This was the provision under which two Missourians brought counter actions against each other, both owning patents for the same improvement in preparing brick. It was proved, however, that the same invention had been in public use before either of the parties to the suit made his invention, and the court accordingly declared both patents void and invalid, holding that the statute, by authorizing a court to adjudge either patent invalid, vested the power to decree both void.

THE Union League of America, which during the war numbered nearly three million members, but which since that period has laid dormant, so far as active work is concerned, is to be revived. It will not be operated as a secret organization, but all its workings will be made public. It proposes, as its platform, entire and unreserved opposition to a Presidential third term; the maintenance of our tariff policy as calculated to protect the best interests of the country; and the adoption of a constitutional amendment prohibiting, directly or indirectly, the diversion of any part of the public school fund for sectarian purposes. These fundamental principles embrace the leading issues already agitating the public mind. At the next meeting of the Executive Committee, which is to be held early next month, the ritual and constitution in a completed form will be adopted.

THE Mayor of Warren, Ohio, issued the following proclamation on New Year's eve:

"To night at twelve o'clock commences the Centennial year, and in accordance with proceedings to be had in other cities of our land, we recommend to the citizens of Warren at that to-night, at precisely twelve o'clock, all of the bells be rung and steam whistles blown, and all demonstrations be made which can possibly be done, *and all other harmless amusements* be indulged in *after midnight*, and let us celebrate the *birth* of the Centennial year, as, *perhaps*, many now living *will ever have the opportunity again.*"

That "perhaps" is indicative of great caution; and a man who is so utterly noncommittal may, by proper attention to his diet and a total abstinence from all excitement, manage to live until the next Centennial.

SENATOR MORTON will introduce his Mississippi resolutions to-day. The debate is likely to run through the week. What ever differences of opinion may obtain concerning the responsibility for the existing evils in that State and other States of the South, there still remains the central fact that the franchise alone makes all men equal; and that until the ballot shall flutter from the black man's hand as freely as from the white man's, the constitutional amendments are but little better than so much waste paper. It is the old arrogant slaveholding spirit in those States which, more than all else, prevents them from climbing out of darkness and chaos into the regions of order and light.

WE publish this morning in our financial column, a tabulated abstract showing the condition of the national banks of this city and Allegheny on December 17. The statement is remarkable for the features of great ease and strength shown in the position of the banks, notwithstanding that the call for a statement at that date was unexpected. It is apparent that ... pressure

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Maine talks somewhat of repealing her prohibitory liquor law.

The stamp tax on bank checks, matches, etc., will not be repealed.

Sally Verb was the name of a Kansas girl who was conjugated by marriage the other day.

A battle of frogs is raging in New Jersey, and the militia have been called out. They are railroad frogs.

They are beginning to come. The Centennial Commissioner from Australia has arrived in San Francisco.

It is feared by fruit growers generally that the present protracted warm spell will result in a fruitless year.

The Chinese Government has just found out that it wants seven thousand square feet of space at the Centennial.

The yolk-fellows of the Chicago press are walking upon eggs. The crooked whisky trials commence to-morrow.

A Hoosier named Wische married Miss Hadder the other day. Some day perhaps he'll wish he hadn't her.

There were 12,433 deaths in New York city last year, an increase of 1,422 over the mortality of the year previous.

Cool. The California allopaths gravely propose to make that school the only lawful medical practice of the State.

It is only thirty-two years ago last Saturday that the first telegraph message passed between Baltimore and Washington.

And now Montenegro has ordered ten thousand stand of small arms and sixty pieces of artillery from our manufacturers.

Renovation. The house in Richmond, Va., occupied by Jeff. Davis during the rebellion, is now used as a private school.

The recent mild weather seems to have been very bad for the corn in cribs out West. A good deal of it is said to be spoiling.

Libby prison has been converted back into a tobacco factory and warehouse, giving employment to a large number of hands.

John Bull, having satisfied himself of the efficacy of iron-clads, by sinking them, is now experimenting with flying machines.

New York merchants who are in a position to judge, estimate an improvement in business this year over last year of twenty-five per cent.

Two ex-Governors of Virginia are now serving in the lower house of the State Legislature—Extra Billy Smith and ex-Governor Letcher.

Mars Hill is to have an investigation. Every member of the last Greek Ministry, except one, is to be put on trial for violating the electoral law.

Excellent. A fatal epidemic has broken out among the dogs in various parts of the South, which seems to be very much like the epizootic among horses.

More progress. The first instance in Great Britain in which a lady has passed the major examination as a pharmaceutical chemist has just occurred.

A large manufacturing corporation, the selling agency of which is in Boston, has not made a loss by a bad debt for nearly a year. This proves that everybody is not failing.

A good showing. The Boston liquor shops have decreased seven hundred under the license law, and there has been a decrease of twenty per cent. in the number of arrests for drunkenness.

The imports of raw silk for 1875 at New York and San Francisco amount to 1,330,482 pounds, against 806,773 for last year. The quantity of this article imported is larger than ever before.

Last week sixty-five persons died in Montreal of small-pox, of whom sixty-two were French Canadians. This is a sad commentary on the opposition of French Canadians to vaccination.

One of the United States signal observers has invented and applied a printing attachment to the signal service anemometer, by which an indelible record of the motion or the wind is observed.

The quintessence of cheek. A recent applicant for relief before the Boston Poor Board pays a tax of $140 per annum, lives in fine style, and owns a piano, on which his daughter takes music lessons.

The first herring of the season was captured near Denton, Caroline county, Maryland, on the 4th inst. This fish has never before been seen at so early a season in the waters of the Chesapeake and its tributaries.

Who would have thought that any legislative body could have been guilty of the criminal folly of memorializing Congress in behalf of the infamous cotton tax steal? Yet the Democratic Arkansas Legislature has done it.

Minnesota complains, too. Fifty per cent. has been added to the debt of five of the leading cities of that State the last five years, and in the same time eighty-five per cent. has been piled on to the already heavy burden of taxation.

Another argument for "limitation." The town and city indebtedness of Massachusetts has grown from some forty-three millions in 1865 to over one hundred and eleven millions at the present time.

And now it is affirmed that Babbit, the New York soap manufacturer, who charges his confidential clerk with embezzling several hundred thousand dollars, has at various times brought similiar charges against more than thirty other of his employees, not one of which was sustained.

PERSONAL.

Dr. Samuel G. Howe, of Boston, long an invalid, is now apparently at the point of death from a sharp attack. A tumor at the base of the brain is supposed to be the fatal trouble.

The London *Athenæum* prints a letter from an Italian naval officer at Spezzia, in which it is said that nobody in that town has heard of the old sailor who, according to Miss Trelawney, confessed upon his deathbed that he was concerned in the murder of Shelley. It is now thought that the young lady was deceived by a hoax.

The original register of marriages at Gretna Green is announced for sale. What a history of romantic runaway couples! Of what curious revelations is this register the custodian! The Gretna priests evidently once drove a roaring trade. Joseph Paisley, one of their number, is said to have received from Westmoreland, Lord Deerhurst and Lord Erskine as much as one hundred guineas for his few minutes' work.

One of the most singular breach of promise cases on record has just occurred in New York. About twelve years ago Mr. and Mrs. Seulspaugh were divorced. In 1874 they were reconciled, Mr. S. inviting his former wife to become his housekeeper under a promise of marriage. Months after months passed, only to bring about a postponement of the happy day. Finally the woman's patience became exhausted, and she has just caused her former husband for damages, as stated.

Curious surgery. A number of years ago a young Iowa farmer dislocated his limb, which was not properly reduced, and left his leg two inches short, which was lengthened out with cork sole and heel. A few days ago a wagon ran against him, the wheel hub striking him on the defective hip, and knocking him over. When he arose his leg was two inches too long, and he was obliged to remove the cork extension, the heel having reduced the dislocation. He walked home immediately.

Here is a sample of the ups and downs of English life. Recently one of the "upper ten" became a bankrupt, and his establishment has been broken up. Last week his magnificent town house was sold at auction for $115,000. The purchaser was his own butler, who, while his master was squandering his estate, saved up his money and was able to pay the cash for his purchase. He is now about to turn the house in which he lived as a servant into a first-class hotel, of which he will be the sole proprietor.

The New York *Times* editorially argues for the holding of the Republican National Convention at an early date in the spring. Concurring with the Albany *Journal*, it says: "An early date should be chosen, for we have nothing to fear from a long canvass. As our cotemporary truly says, 'the weight of argument and the earnestness of conviction are on our side,'" and it goes on to add that "it would be well to hold the convention as early as May, and not later than June. In 1872, the Republican Convention was held on the 5th and 6th of June; this year there is no good reason why it should not assemble in May. The sooner opened the the battle which now stands in the way of an intelligent discussion of the Presidential question is swept aside the better, and the sounder some persons will sleep who are now appalled by the nightmare of the 'third term' Nothing is to be gained by a long delay in deciding who are to be the candidates of the party. We hope, therefore, that the committee will decide to name in the spring.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

The Reading *Eagle* says Frederick Boyer and his two sons are at present engaged in digging silver on a farm in Lebanon county. They have excavated ground and rock to to depth of eight or nine feet, and report having "struck" a vein of sulphur, which is impregnated with silver. The spot was selected upon the authority of some old woman from Harrisburg, who assumes the power of discovering the hidden treasures of the earth.

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STATE NEWS.

Williamsport is to have a chicken show.

There were fourteen deaths in Reading last week.

Dogs killed 150 sheep in Indiana county during 1875.

A Bar Association is to be organized in Uniontown.

There were only nineteen deaths in Waynesburg during 1875.

A Greene county woman ordered an "oyster feather" from her milliner.

The *Globe* printing office, Huntingdon, is to be sold by the sheriff, this week.

Stories about mad dogs are beginning to appear in Eastern country papers.

Pansies and dandilions were in full bloom in Venango county on the 5th inst.

A seventy-two year old Pottstowner is wrestling with his first attack of whooping cough.

Charles F. Voigt, printer, died in Lancaster on the 7th inst., aged forty-seven years.

The Waynesburg *Independent* says the bottom has dropped out of the roads in Greene county.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Schurch, of Philadelphia, celebrated their golden wedding on the 6th inst.

The Philadelphia station houses furnished lodgings for 67,474 persons in 1875, and for 40,857 in 1874.

Ellsworth Billman, five years old, fell into a boiler of hot water on the 5th inst., and was fatally scalded.

Miss Maud Wallace, the youngest of the Wallace sisters, died in Philadelphia, a few days ago, of diphtheria.

Samuel J. Comerer, of Ayr township, Fulton county, has a stove made in 1764, which is still good for years of usefulness.

Albert K. Thatcher, blacksmith, aged sixty, fell off a bridge below Narrowsville, Bucks county, and was found dead next morning.

Rev. S. G. Rhoads, Presiding Elder of the Evangelical Conference, Philadelphia district, died at his residence in that city on 6th inst.

Henry Gunder, a cripple, was robbed by highwaymen near his home at Jenner X roads, Somerset county, on the night of the 4th inst.

They think in Meadville that a small paid fire department would be better as well as cheaper than the present volunteer organization.

John Hill, of Manordale, Westmoreland county, went out to shoot pigeons recently. His gun accidentally discharged, and John climbed the golden stair.

E. G. Smyser, of York, is in possession of the hammer that was in the original bell which called the Revolutionary Congress together at that place.

John Murray has been arrested and committed to jail on a charge of murdering August Allbright, near Fountain Mills, Fayette county, in November last.

Ella, a little daughter of Mr. M. V. Orner, living near Altoona, was fatally burned on the 4th inst., her clothes igniting while she was playing near a fire.

There were fifty births and twenty-five deaths in Allentown during the month of December. Forty-eight marriages were recorded during the same period.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Lebanon, will be torn down, and one of the handsomest and most costly churches in the States will be erected upon its site.

Brisbin Bros. have discontinued their paper, the Osceola *Reveille*, having sold the material to O. E. McFadden, who will republish a paper called the *Industrial World*.

A three-year-old girl, daughter of Henry Sanders, of Pottsville, was so badly scalded by the breaking of a pitcher of hot water, on the 3d inst., as to cause her death a few hours later.

Hon. Thomas P. Pollock died at his residence in Morgan township, Greene county, on the 3d inst., aged seventy-seven years. He held the position of Associate Judge for one term.

A Tioga county justice of the peace was caught in the dead hour of night, filching from a neighbor's corn crib, and his constituents advise him to follow Greeley's admonition to young men.

In Brothersvalley township, Somerset county, several farmers have been engaged for a week past in boiling sugar, and others are washing keelers, preparatory to starting up their sugar camps.

Two libel suits are to be tried in the Huntingdon county court this week. The defendants are in one case Fleming & McNeil, of the *Monitor*, and in the other Prof. Guss, of the *Globe*.

An aged German woman, Mrs. Vogelzank, hung herself at Stockton on the 3d inst. She had been addicted to the use of liquor, and when her supplies were cut off, she didn't want to live any longer.

The Tyrone *Herald* says the late "labor convention" at that place was a miserable failure. Not over twenty-five persons were in attendance, and they were not representative workingmen, but "lecturers," etc.

Ten convicts from Luzerne county were taken to the Eastern Penitentiary a few days ago. Their aggregate sentences reached sixty-five years, seven months. One of the convicts received fourteen years and ten months.

Miss Caroline Johnson, a young lady of wealth, committed suicide in Philadelphia on the 5th inst., by taking laudanum. Depression of mind, caused by the suicide of her brother, last summer, is believed to have been the cause.

Washington Townsend, colored, of Ridley, Delaware county, was sent to make a purchase in the evening, and a party of men bound him to a fence and beat him. He remained tied five hours, and was finally released by a woman who heard his cries.

The Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* put off the old and put on the new, the other day, and is new as fresh and shining, typographically, as a new dime is numismatorially. It is one of the best evening journals in the country, and sound as a dollar, politically.

One of the former proprietors of the Altoona *Tribune*, Col. E. B. McGrum, has again entered the newspaper field, this time in Pittsburgh. He recently purchased the Mifflintown *Independent*, and will devote his energies toward making it a first-class country newspaper.

Hon. William Piatt, of Brady township, Lycoming county, died suddenly on the 6th inst., aged eighty-one years. He served three terms in the Legislature, beginning in 1830. He lived and died upon the farm where he was born.

Mr. Moody said very truly, yesterday, that there are "plenty of Lots in Philadelphia." He might have added that many of them are now being improved, that in the case of the Lots around the Centennial buildings they are going to be covered in the spring.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

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September 18th. Besides the numerous buildings already built, it is contemplated to erect the coming season a restaurant to cost thirty thousand dollars.

On Sunday, January 24, a lady ninety-three years of age walked into Dayton from her residence, four miles north of the city, to see her great great-grandson, who was born December 24, 1875.

John M. Van Meter, Esq., has been appointed by Governor Allen to fill the unexpired term of Judge Gray as Common Pleas Judge of the Chillicothe district, Judge Gray being compelled to resign in consequence of failing health.

The Zanesville *Courier* says: James Mills, aged 92; Stephen Reeves, 96; Hezekiah Sturges, 82; John G. Roberts, 81, and Samuel Howard, 91, five of the oldest citizens of the county, called at C. W. Potwin & Co.'s banking house during last Friday. Their ages aggregate 441 years, an average of over 88 years.

How the Blood is Filtered.

When the blood contains the acrid elements which produce rheumatism, gout and venal disorders, the kidneys ought, for it is their office, to filter from the blood, in its passage through them, these hurtful impurities. When they do not, they may be truthfully said to be in a thorough performance of their duty, and the blood thoroughly depurated by that admirable corrective of organic inactivity, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. Not only is impurity of the kidneys overcome, through the agency of the Bitters, but digestion is facilitated, bilious tendencies counteracted, and the bowels stimulated to a due discharge of their function, which, in connection with that of the kidneys, tends to free the system from the bodily refuse, whose retention is so prejudicial to health.

E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron

Has never been known to fail in the cure of weakness attended with symptoms, indisposition to exertion, loss of memory, difficulty of breathing, general weakness, horror of disease, weak nervous trembling, dreadful horror of death, night sweats, cold feet, weakness, dimness of vision, languor, universal lassitude of the muscular system, enormous appetite, with dyspeptic system, hot hands, flushing of the body, dryness of the skin, pallid countenance and eruptions on the face, purifying the blood, pain in the back, heaviness of the eyelids, frequent black spots flying before the eyes with temporary suffusion and loss of sight, want of attention, etc. These symptoms all arise from a weakness, and to remedy that use E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron. It never fails. Thousands are now enjoying health who have used it. Get the genuine. Sold only in $1 bottles. Take only E. F. Kunkel's. Depot and Office, No. 259 North Ninth street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Ask for Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron. This valuable tonic has been so thoroughly tested by all classes of the community that it is now deemed indispensable as a Tonic medicine. It costs but little, purifies the blood and gives tone to the stomach, invigorates the system and prolongs life.

I now only ask a trial of this valuable tonic. Price $1 per bottle. E. F. KUNKEL, Sole Proprietor, No. 259 North Ninth street, below Vine, Philadelphia, Pa. Ask for Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron, and take no other. It is sold only in $1 bottles, with a photograph of the proprietor on each wrapper, all others is counterfeit. Sold by all druggists.

Tape Worm Removed Alive.

Head and all complete in two hours. No fee till head passes. Send Pic and Stomach removed by Dr. KUNKEL, 259 North Ninth street. Advice free. No fee until cured. Ask for KUNKEL'S WORM SYRUP. Price $1, and guaranteed. Send for circular. MWF

NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.,

43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.

W. W. MARTIN.....President
JAMES K. STEVENSON.....Secretary

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.
Assets January 1, 1875 - $778,251 56.

CHARTERED IN 1868.

Open daily from 9 to 3 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent. compound from the 1st of May and 1st of each month, if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

GEO. A. BERRY, President. JOHN SCOTT, JAS. PARK, JR., Vice Presidents. D. E. MILLER, Secretary. ALEX. KNOX, Treasurer. A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. A. Bell, Wm. K. Nimick, John S. Ewart, T. M. Howe, O. H. Hallock, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Ege.

John B. Bailey, Solicitor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Elegant Illustrated Quarto,

A CENTURY AFTER.

Picturesque Glimpses of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. Complete in 12 Parts: 50 cents each. ALLEN, LANE & SCOTT and W. M. LAUDERBACH, Publishers, Philadelphia.

PRESTON PARR, Agent, 108 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh.

HALE, KILBURN & CO.

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OF PHILADELPHIA.
INCORPORATED 1847.
ASSETS - - - $5,350,000

ENTIRELY MUTUAL.

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JOHN C. BULLITT, Pres't. SAMUEL E. STOKES, Vice Pres't. H. S. STEPHENS, 2d Vice Pres't. JAMES M. ALDRICH, Secretary. CHAS. G. ROBERTS, Actuary.

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COL. THEO. HYATT, PRES'T PA. MIL. ACADEMY.

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Sewickley Classical, Scientific and Commercial Academy

commences Winter Term JANUARY 3, and ends March 28, 1876. The School is divided into five departments; tuition in each for term as follows:

Primary Department.....$10 00
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Ladies' Course Department.....30 00
Classical and Scientific.....30 00
Commercial.....25 00

For further information and circulars, address MR. and MRS. A. T. DOUTHETT, Principals, Sewickley, Allegheny co., Pa.

Drawing.

Instruction in MECHANICAL and FREEHAND DRAWING, MATHEMATICS and NATURAL SCIENCES, by WM. H. STREBINGER, C.E., Civil Engineer. No. 16 Smithfield street, Pittsburgh. Applications received at Eden Musee, Diamond, Pittsburgh, or Catholic Institute, 109 Wood street, or office.

PROPOSALS.

Proposals for Army Transportation on the Missouri River.

HEADQUARTERS MIL. DIV. OF THE MISSOURI, OFFICE CHIEF Q. M. QUARTERMASTER, CHICAGO, ILL., No. 2 UNION BUILDING, December 16, 1875.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE received at this office until, and opened at, 12 o'clock M., Saturday, January 15, 1876, for the transportation of supplies and armament troops and on the Missouri river, between Sioux City, or Jackson, D. T., and Fort Benton, M. T., and separate proposals will also be obtained on the succeeding day, which is desirable, as business of importance will be brought up.

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VICK'S FLOWER AND VEGETABLE GARDEN

are the best the world produces. They are planted by a million people in America, and the result is beautiful flowers and splendid Vegetables. A Priced Catalogue sent free to all who inclose the postage—a cent stamp.

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PATENTS.

Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult P. A. LEHMANN, of Washington, D. C., corner of Seventh and G streets, 9 Room 2, 16 Sixth street Pittsburgh. Send for circular

DRY GOODS.

1876.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, January 8, 1876.

We present below a summarized tabulation of the official statements of the national banks of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, showing their condition on Friday, December, 17, 1875. As usual the five banks of Allegheny and Birmingham are placed outside of the totals, being classed as rural banks in matters of reserve. The twenty-three Pittsburgh banks only are therefore available in comparison of reserve and comparisons of condition. In the table given below the items are condensed considerably for the purpose of saving space. The first item of loans includes loans and discounts, bonds, stocks and mortgages, other than United States bonds to secure circulation, which are given in the second column. The amounts due from all banks, other than reserve agents, whether State or national, are also condensed under the fourth head. The expense column includes real estate, furniture, fixtures, current expenses and premiums. The cash items are principally composed of national bank notes, but also include fractional currency and checks other than exchanges for clearing house. On the other side, the surplus is condensed with the undivided profits, and all deposits are condensed under two heads, the first being the amounts due individual depositors, including unpaid dividends and certificates, and the second the amounts due other banks, State and national. The following is the tabulated exhibit:

RESOURCES.

Banks.	Loans.	U. S. Bonds to Secure Circulation.	U. S. Bonds to Secure Deposits.	Other Stocks, Bonds and Mortgages.	Due from Reserve Agents.	Due from other Banks.	Real Estate, Furniture and Fixtures.	Current Expenses and Premiums.	Cash Items.	Clearing House Exchanges.	Bills of other Banks.	Fractional Currency.	Specie.	Legal Tender Notes.	Total.
January 8, 1876.															
Pittsburgh															
Pittsburgh															
Citizens'															
Commercial															
Duquesne															
Exchange															
First															
Fourth															
Iron City															
Manufacturers'															
Mechanics'															
Merchants'															
Metropolitan															
Monongahela															
Pittsburgh															
Second															
Third															
Union															
Western															
Total															
Allegheny															
Citizens'															
First															
Second															
Third															
Total															
Birmingham															
Birmingham															
Total															

LIABILITIES.

Banks.	Capital Stock.	Surplus Fund.	Undivided Profits.	Dividends Unpaid.	Individual Deposits.	Due to other Banks.	Due to Treasurer U. S.	Circulation.	Total.
January 8, 1876.									
Pittsburgh									
Pittsburgh									
Citizens'									
Commercial									
Duquesne									
Exchange									
First									
Fourth									
Iron City									
Manufacturers'									
Mechanics'									
Merchants'									
Metropolitan									
Monongahela									
Pittsburgh									
Second									
Third									
Union									
Western									
Total									
Allegheny									
Citizens'									
First									
Second									
Third									
Total									
Birmingham									
Birmingham									
Total									

A comparison of the totals of this statement with the preceding one of October 1st, 1875, shows rather slight alterations. We give a comparative abstract of both statements as follows:

RESOURCES.

	Dec. 17, 1875.	Oct. 1, 1875.
Loans	$19,816,007 17	$18,398,022 64
Bonds for circ'n	7,650,500 00	7,695,875 00
Due from Res. ag'ts	1,901,017 51	1,900,336 25
Due from banks	1,027,817 69	981,718 32
Expenses &c.	1,408,436 42	1,491,154 37
Cash and currency	462,940 30	742,919 23
Exchanges	428,091 61	767,012 22
Specie	47,170 07	32,556 30
Legal Tenders	2,231,086 00	2,258,671 00
5 per cent. red. fund	340,837 40	337,962 50
Totals	$35,305,804 20	$35,626,222 93

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock	$10,326,963 99
Surplus and profits	3,705,770 39
Dividends unpaid	3,786,919 62
Individual deposits	12,985,286 00
Due to banks	2,242,833 11
Totals	$35,305,804 20
Number of banks	23

The changes shown to have taken places in the period between the two dates are not very important, except as showing a somewhat less plethoric condition. The principal alterations are shown by the decrease in cash items and exchanges, under which heads there was an aggregate reduction of over $700,000. This is partially made up by the increase in the deposits with reserve agents and other banks, and in legal tenders, but still materially reduced the total of assets. The capital and loans are increased in about equal amounts, the additional increase in loans which might have been expected having been counteracted by a decrease in deposits. The feature of large deposits with foreign bankers, noted in connection with the last statement, still continues, the deposits with reserve agents being considerably in excess of half the reserve. The supply of legal tenders and specie, however, makes up a large portion of the reserve required, and the total cash assets of the banks amount to nearly fifty per cent. of liabilities. The position as shown by the statement is a strong one. The following is a statement and classification of the legal reserve at the above date:

December 17, 1875.	
Reserve required	$2,198,716 86
Reserve held	4,132,390 35
Excess of reserve	942,593 49
Classification of reserve:	
Specie	43,170 07
Legal tenders	2,231,086 00
Five per cent. redemption fund	337,962 50
U. S. certificates of deposit	100,000 00
With reserve agents	1,420,034 49

The statement does not give any cause to consider that there has been any important change in the financial situation. The principal features of the position are great ease and strength, and the most prominent fact connected therewith is that the demand for money from home borrowers is still so inadequate to the supply, that in addition to the amount of $350,000 legal tenders in excess of reserve requirements, more than $1,500,000 is placed at foreign points, in addition to the $1,400,000 that is held abroad available for reserve. The moral which we would draw is still that of judicious and yet liberal extension of investments in order to give employment to the now idle or only partially employed capital.

—The week's business among the banks closed quiet, with money tolerably plenty, and a moderate inquiry for loans. Rates were easy as formerly reported. The report of the operations of the Pittsburgh Clearing House for the week ending to-day shows a considerable increase in checks, being incident to the work of January settlements. The report shows exchanges to the amount of $8,373,188 60, and balances to the amount of $807,264 19. The supply of Eastern exchange is still sufficient for business requirements and New York drafts rule at par in transactions between bankers. We learned of nothing new in local stocks or securities. The following were the closing quotations of Government bonds:

	Bid.	Asked.		Bid.	Asked
Currency 6's, 123		125½	5-20's, '67, r	119½	120
6's, 1881, r	120	120½	5-20's, '67, c	119½	120½
6's, 1881, c	120	120½	5-20's, '68, r	120½	121
5-20's, 1864, r	119½	119¾	5-20's, '68, c	120½	121
5-20's, 1864, c	119½	119¾	10-40's, r	115½	116
5-20's, 1865, r	119½	119¾	10-40's, c	116½	116½
5-20's, 1865, c	119½	119¾	6's, 1881, r	116½	117
5-20's, 1865, c, n	119½	119¾	6's, 1881, c	117	117½
5-20's, '65, c n	117½	117¾			

*Called.

—The following review of the week's business in the New York money and stock market is furnished by Messrs. Trask & Stone, Bankers and Brokers, No. 7 New street, New York.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The first week of the year, in its opening transactions was somewhat of a disappointment to those who looked to see an immediate reflection of the generally improved feeling which was expected to come in with the Centennial year.

But towards the close of the week a strong upward movement in stocks manifested itself, especially in the better class of investment securities, including railroad mortgage bonds and coal shares.

Some of the speculative "fancies" sympathised to some extent and recorded a slight advance.

Whether this strength may be continued during the next few weeks or months, is of small importance, but ultimately there is every reason to look for a generally higher average.

The fact that in every particular, as well in Government, State, municipal and private business, a system of economy and management has been adopted, which of itself must work out good results. We are pleased to note the increasing strength in Government securities, as well as in all first-class investment securities, and this must have a good effect ultimately, as good stocks as are known to be on a solid basis. The bank statement shows a gain in specie for the week of $60,000, which will probably give us easy money during the coming week.

Yours truly,
TRASK & STONE.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

Stocks.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	3:00
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
U. S. 6's, 5-20's, coup	121	121			
U. S. 5-20's, 1865	118¾	118¾			
U. S. 5's, 1865, new	117¾	117¾			
U. S. 5-20's, 1867	119¼	119¼			
U. S. 5-20's, 1867, regis'd	119½	119½			
U. S. 5-20's, 1868	120½	120½			
U. S. 10-40's	117½	117¾			
U. S. 6's, currency	125	125			
Currency 6's	128	128			
Pacific Mail	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾
Western Union Tel	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾
Quicksilver				19	20
Pacific Mail	35¾	35¾	35¾	35¾	36¼
Panama	133	133	132½	132½	133
Adams Express			102	102	
Wells, Fargo & Co. Express	81½				
American Express	57½				
United States Express	61				
New York Central	107½				
Erie	15¾				
Do preferred	31				
Harlem	128				
Do preferred	131				
Hudson River	107¾				
Michigan Central	91				
Michigan Southern	61¾				
Cleveland & Pittsburgh					98½
Chicago & Pittsburgh	90½				90½
Chicago & Rock Island	98½				98½
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne	134				134
Do preferred	135				135
Illinois Central	95½				95½
Cleveland & Toledo	98½				98½
Columbus & Indiana Central	36				36
Terre Haute	8				8
Do preferred	19				19
Ohio & Mississippi	30				30
Indiana Central	30				30
Burlington & Quincy	115½				115½
Union Pacific stock	71¾				71¾
Union Pacific bonds	104½				
Union Pacific lands	91½				
Do land grants	101½				
Do sinking fund bds	91½				

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	121	New 5's	117¾
U. S. 1864	118½	10-40's registered	115½
5-20's, 1865, new	117¾	10-40's coupons	116½
5-20's, 1867	119¼	Currency 6's	122¾
5-20's, 1868	120½		

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	44	Virginia, old	37
Tennessee, new	42¾	Virginia, new	38

LONDON, January 8.—Console for money 93 9-16; for account, 93 11-16. United States 5-20's, 1865, 104½; 5-20's, 1867, 107½; 5-20's, 1865, new 5's 105, Railroad securities—New York Central 91; Erie 14¾; do preferred 29.

PARIS, January 8.—Rentes 65@65f 30c. francs.

FRANKFORT, January 8.—United States 5-20's 99¼.

NEW ORLEANS, January 8.—Gold 113¼ Sight ½ per cent. discount. Sterling—Bank nominal.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, January 8, 1876.

The features of trade to-day were not novel in any way, as everything was moving along in the accustomed channels with about an ordinary degree of activity. There seems to be a little more doing in grain and flour circles at present than at the close of the year, which prices remain wholly without alteration. In country produce there is a very dull trade, owing to the long continued warm weather and numerous other adverse circumstances. Prices in this line were generally weak, the principal feature being the weakness and depressed prices of cheese. The same weakness was prevalent throughout the entire market, especially in poultry, which was scarce and firm. Provisions moved steadily at reduced quotations. In groceries the only noticeable events were the case in sugars, and a few minor changes in foreign fruits. Except the decline in petroleum, there were no other changes of importance to note.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,678	Cheese, lbs	80
Corn, bus	1,208	Butter, pkgs	190
Wheat, bus	2,160	Potatoes, bus	860
Oats, bus	2,741	Hay, bales	615

The receipts of the leading articles of produce in this city during the week ending today, compared with the corresponding receipts for the three preceding weeks, are as follows:

Week ending	Dec. 18.	Dec. 25.	Jan. 1.	Jan. 8.
Flour, bbls	7,467	8,005	6,136	10,157
Apples, bbls	794	669	35	819
Cheese, lbs	312	1,988	338	189
Corn, bus	11,502	11,741	12,318	7,259
Wheat, bus	5,450	7,200	4,700	7,560
Barley, bus	6,940	8,000	6,000	6,855
Rye, bus	550	213	3,946	2,342
Oats, bus	23,878	23,889	14,952	18,308
Butter, pkgs	570	829	463	726
Bacon, pcs	7,922	26,485	13,268	13,750
Bacon, lcs	115	262	330	404
Potatoes, bus	1,410	2,040	1,250	14,460
Hay, bales	1,581	2,450	1,952	2,133

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Breadstuffs and Produce.

GRAIN—The market shows a somewhat improved tone, but continues to move at former prices. Receipts during the past week have been in the main rather light with a slight increase in oats. Wheat was quiet and unchanged. The present rates are: Michigan white $1 30@1 32; amber $1 28@1 30; Ohio do $1 22@1 25; do red winter $1 20@1 30, the latter for strictly prime quality. No Southwestern red at $1 28; low grades are dull and neglected at $1 15@1 22; rejected do at $1 00@1 10, as to quality. Corn was in moderate demand and steady. We quote new shelled at 80@85c for good yellow; new ear 48@50c for mixed; and 52@55c for choice white; old shelled in elevator is held at 62@65c. Oats were easy at yesterday's prices. We quote mixed Pennsylvania and Ohio 29@30c; white do at 31@33c; Western white at 32@34c. Barley—Not much doing. Canada is held low at 90@1 35 ₱ bushel; choice spring at 1 80@1 22; rejected do at 1 00@1 10, as to quality. Corn—

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank PITTSBURGH, PA., January 9, 1876.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M..	29 720	56	68	S. W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P. M..	29 614	55	93	S. W.	Fresh.	Lt rain
9 P. M..	29 394	56	87	S.	Fresh.	Lt rain

Mean barometer...29 530 Highest thermom....59
Mean thermom.... 57.7 Lowest thermom....52
Rainfall..... .63

Iron City College,

corner Penn avenue and Sixth street. Open day and evening. Students received at any time. For terms, call or address J. C. Smith, A.M., Principal.

Dr. Hunter

Devotes special attention to diseases of the throat, lungs and ears. Office, No. 178 Fourth avenue, above Grant street. Office hours, from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M. PWF

Feel Aggrieved.

The editor of the *Chronicle* received a card from W. D. Moore, Esq., on Saturday as follows: "Mr. Avery, Superintendent, and Miss McCoy, Matron of the House of Refuge, feel aggrieved by your publications concerning them. They utterly deny their truth and request you to make proper reparation for the wrong done them." The editor replies that he "fails to see why the officials mentioned should feel aggrieved at anything published in the *Chronicle*."

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KILLING BY EXPLOSIVE OILS.

Responsibilities of Manufacturers—Guilty Knowledge Must be Proved Before the Parties Selling Can be Held in Damages.

Chief Justice Agnew delivered the opinion of the Supreme Court in the case of Elkins, Bly & Co., vs. Elizabeth McKean. The jury, in the Court below, found for the plaintiff, Mrs. McKean, whose husband had died from the effects of burns received from the explosion of a lamp carried in his hand, or from a fall, breaking the lamp and setting the oil on fire. The action was founded on the allegation that the de fendants willfully made and sold the oil for lighting purposes, knowing it was highly inflammable, explosive and unsafe. The Chief Justice, after reviewing the testimony, says: "Thus, upon the whole evidence, the turning point of the case—namely, a sale of this oil for illuminating purposes, with guilty knowledge of its unfit and explosive character—is wanting in order to support the submission of the fact to the jury. The suit must reverse the judgment.

The Chief Justice refuses to enter into the argument of error, the substance of which is that after the oil had passed from the defendants, its identity was quantified by Elkins & Co., and from them in smaller quantities to Caskey, and from Caskey to Steele and Hart, who sold the lamp to McKean, there can be no recovery. The argument in support of this point is rounded upon the alleged successive intervening liabilities of the persons through whose hands the oil had passed. But this proposition is unsound as a legal theory. The number of hands through which the oil had passed might furnish a strong argument on the question of identity, and the guilty knowledge of Elkins, Bly & Co., as to this particular oil; but could not constitute a bar to recovery, if the identity of the oil and the guilty knowledge were clear. Certainly one who knowingly makes and puts on the market for domestic and other use, such a death-dealing fluid, cannot claim exemption from liability for his terrible wrong, because he has sent it through many hands. The length of its passage may create a doubt of its identity, or that it was sent on its mission of destruction with full knowledge of its dangerous qualities, but the facts being established he cannot escape the consequences of his crime against society. A manufacturer who sells his product as an illuminating oil having the safe fire test of 110 degrees, when in fact he knows that its fire test will not exceed sixty-five degrees, and that this is a most explosive and unsafe oil for domestic use, can plead nothing in defense of this willful, terrible wrong done to a confiding community. He bears within him a heart regardless of social duty, evidencing malice, in its legal sense, in a high degree. He sells on the street through which the oil has traveled may be insufficient as a legal bar, the proof which sustains the fact of a guilty knowledge should be clear in proportion to the great wrong thus charged against one who may be innocent. We have already said that the evidence offered in support of the guilty knowledge in this case was insufficient to be submitted to the jury. Judgment reversed and a new trial awarded.

Nominations For City Offices.

PARTY CAUCUS ON SATURDAY.

Excitement About Municipal Hall—Harmonious Republican Gathering—The Democracy Hope for Advantage From the Disappointment of Some Republican Candidates—Most of the Old Officials Renominated—Full List of the Nominees.

The liveliest scenes ever witnessed about our new Municipal Hall, were those enacted there on Saturday. From ten o'clock in the morning until the same hour at night crowds of office seekers, with office holders, held the place, and but little routine business was transacted in the various offices. At times the wildest excitement prevailed, and while bitter feelings were in some instances engendered no personal difficulties occurred. The occasion was the assembling of the Republican and the Democratic members of the City Councils, respectively, in caucus, for the purpose of putting in nomination candidates for the various positions within the gift of the bodies named.

THE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS.

The Republican members had been called to meet at two o'clock in the afternoon, in the Select Council chamber. At ten in the morning the candidates and their friends were about, distributing their tickets, while soon after noon, when the doors of the chamber were thrown open, a rush with loads of pasteboard and printers ink was made. The desks were strewn with cards of all shapes, sizes and colors, announcing the names of aspirants and the positions desired, and all wanted the top place in the heap so that they could not escape the attention of the councilmanic eye. Members of Councils were besieged at their offices and places of business by candidates and friends, while the button-holing and pressure to which they were subjected while on the way to the place of meeting was distressing.

THE ORGANIZATION.

Promptly at the hour appointed the meeting was called to order, the doors were closed and the candidates shut out, much to the relief of members.

Major W. B. Negley was chosen Temporary Chairman and Messrs. R. B. Brown, Dr. McCandless and John A. Musgrave Secretaries.

The election of permanent President being in order, Major W. B. Negley and Mr. Gus. L. Braun were nominated for the position. A vote was then taken and the result announced as follows:

Negley.....38 | Braun.....33

Select Council having been unanimous, and Common Council standing fifteen for Negley to twelve for Braun, the

The election of Major Negley was made unanimous.

On motion the temporary Secretaries were continued as permanent Secretaries.

At the instance of Mr. John N. Neeb, sustained by Mr. R. B. Brown and others, a resolution was adopted admitting the reporters of the press.

On motion of Mr. Holliday the following resolution was offered by a voter duly to ite:

Resolved, That we, the members of the Republican caucus, do hereby individually pledge ourselves to stand by and support without reservation the nominations that shall be made to-day.

The nays were as follows: Messrs. Braun, Brown, S. S., Denniston, Doyle, Epping, Felker and Sorg, Selects, and Messrs. Conway, Hahn and Hughes, of Common Council.

It was understood that while the gentlemen had voted against the nominations they would abide by the result of the vote of the majority.

Mr. Darlington moved that the vote on the several candidates be taken *viva voce*. This was amended to vote by ballot and as amended was adopted.

Mr. Metzgar offered the following:

WHEREAS, The Democratic party in the National and State Legislature, whenever they are in the majority, are carrying out the doctrine that to the victor belongs the spoils, and are removing men from office on account of their political faith; and

WHEREAS, The party in power is held responsible for the good government of the people, Therefore,

Resolved, That hereafter, when any vacancies shall occur in any office in the gift of the Council that Dr. Gross and Major W. B. Negley shall call together the Republican members of Councils in the Mayor's office for the purpose of nominating persons for such vacancies.

The preamble and resolution were adopted.

CITY ENGINEER.

It was resolved to proceed with the nomination of city officers, and as City Engineer was first in order, A. Dempster, J. H. Reno and Isaac Morley were placed in nomination. The vote was announced as follows:

Dempster.....37 | Reno.....31
Morley.....6

There being no choice a second ballot was ordered.

The result of the second ballot was announced as follows:

Dempster.....38 | Reno.....32
Morley.....4

Mr. Dempster was therefore declared the nominee of the caucus.

CITY ASSESSOR.

The next officer was City Assessor. Mr. Thomas H. Phelps and Mr. Brown, ex-member of Common Council, were placed in nomination. The ballot resulted in the nomination of Mr. Phelps, there being but three dissenting votes.

David M. Martin, present City Ganger, was renominated without opposition.

CITY SUPERINTENDENT.

Nominations for this position were next in order, and James M. Atkinson, James Boyd and Cooper, Jones were named. On the ballots were had, the name of Mr. Cooper being withdrawn after the first. The ballots were as follows:

	1st ballot.	2d ballot.
Atkinson	36	38
Boyd	35	32
Cooper	1	

Mr. ATKINSON was declared the nominee

CHOICE ON FIRST BALLOT.

But one ballot was needed for choice of Water Assessor. Superintendent of Markets and North Side Clerk of Markets, the present incumbents being renominated as follows:

For Water Assessor, Mr. Chauncey Bostwick received 36 votes to 33 for Robert A. Hamilton.

For Superintendent of Markets, Mr. Joseph Caskey received 51 votes to 21 for Mr. Allan Patterson.

For Clerk of Markets, North Side, Mr. James F. Moore received 68 votes to 6 for Oliver Ferson and 1 for Elder Ranger.

CLERK OF SOUTH SIDE MARKETS.

For this office there were four candidates, the first ballot resulting as follows:

	1st ballot.	2d ballot.
David L. McDonald	39	Patterson P. Pearson 7
James K. Larimer	24	Fred Kaufield 11

There being no nomination a second ballot was ordered, it stood thus:

McDonald	35	Pearson	4
Larimer	29	Kaufield	4

There still being no choice a third ballot was ordered, and a resolution passed that the two lowest candidates be dropped. The third ballot resulted:

McDonald.....46 | Larimer.....26

McDonald was declared nominated.

WHARFMASTER (NORTH SIDE).

For this position there were five persons named and a lively fight was made, four ballots being taken. The persons named were A. G. Buchanan, Fred. Jacobs, John Carvey, Samuel Mitchell and William Kennedy.

Mr. R. Murray nominated Mr. Kennedy, but Councilman Moore objected to his name being considered, because of his Democratic proclivities. No action was taken.

The Chairman asked the sense of the caucus on the reading of communications relating to one of the candidates should be read. This was not permitted. The documents were communications of Captain Carvey, from river men and the Coal Exchange.

Three ballots were then had amid considerable confusion, with the following result:

	1st ballot.	2d ballot.	3d ballot.
Buchanan, A. G.	13	11	
Jacobs, Fred	29	32	37
Mitchell, Samuel	17	11	
Jacobs, Fred	29	22	36
Kennedy, Wm	12		7

Mr. Carvey was declared nominated, but while another office was being acted upon Capt. Aull discovered that the total vote in the third ballot showed more than there were members present. He demanded a call of the house, which resulted in showing but seventy-one members present.

This caused much confusion and confusion, and another ballot was ordered by a rising vote. The ballot resulted:

Carvey.....35 | Jacobs.....38

So that Mr. Jacobs was declared the nominee.

WHARFMASTER—(SOUTH SIDE).

The persons named two ballots were had, the persons named being Harry Moore, Charles Evans and Job Wareham. Mr. Moore was nominated on the second ballot, the vote being as follows:

	1st ballot.	2d ballot.
Moore, Harry	36	37
Wareham, Job	16	3
Evans, Charles	20	30

BUILDING INSPECTOR.

The office of Building Inspector was next taken up, and R. M. Reed, (present incumbent,) J. C. Bayburn, Wm. J. Richie, S. S. Waughter and Phillip Donnelly were put in nomination. The vote resulted:

Reed	27	Rayburn	9
Richie	10	Waughter	9
Donnelly	7		

A resolution having been passed before this ballot was taken to drop all but the two highest thereon, the names of Reed, Waughter and Donnelly were stricken off, leaving Reed and Rayburn alone. The second ballot stood:

Reed	48	Rayburn	25

Mr. Reed was declared nominated.

John M. King, for Inspector of Ashes, and John Fullerton, for Inspector of Tobacco, were nominated without opposition.

STREET COMMISSIONERS.

John F. Hunter was selected for the First and George Linderman for the Second district, by acclamation. In the Third, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh districts the following names were suggested and balloted for:

THIRD.

	1st ballot.	2d ballot.
Fowler, Van B.	9	
King, S. Coe Mills	27	56
Galli, Wm	24	
Davidson, Ed	1	
Lewis, D.	31	48

Lewis Lewis was nominated.

There is no Fourth district.

FIFTH.

	1st ballot.	2d ballot.
Evans, T. J	28	30
Emery, D.	31	37
Knaba, Wm	8	

David Emery nominated.

SIXTH.

	1st ballot.	2d ballot.
Ott, Charles	26	39
Connor, J. G	23	38
Rucker, J. M	7	
Thomas, R	15	

Charles Ott was nominated.

SEVENTH.

Graham, J	10	Wilbert, J	40
Appel, A	2	Bond, W	7
Quigg, C	27		

John Wilbert nominated on first ballot.

ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

The road commissioners were next taken up, and in the first district, James M. Hunter, being the present incumbent, was renominated. The vote was:

James M. Hunter	39	R. N. Craig	13
J. L. McIlhenny	5	Robert Ferguson	9

In the Second district the ballot stood:

Richard Thompson	38	T. F. Wallace	3
John Boreland	21	Dr. Bese	2

Thompson was consequently nominated.

In the Third district, W. T. Bowers, having no opposition, was nominated by acclamation.

The question of nominating board and bark measurers was passed over.

Capt. S. S. Cooper was unanimously nominated for messenger.

Mr. John Neeb offered and had passed a playful resolution regarding the necessity of something for the inner man, and at a quarter past seven o'clock the caucus adjourned.

The Democratic Caucus

The Democratic members of the Councils met in the Common Council chamber at half-past seven o'clock P. M. There are twenty-eight Democrats in all, in the city Legislature a larger number than have occupied seats therein for many years. It is hoped that, taking advantage of some dissatisfaction in the Republican nominations the opposition might effect a break and thus get one or more of their friends. The result of the Republican caucus is not such, however, as to give much strength to the Democratic hopes. The nominees are very good men—most of the best of those now in office having been renominated—and the feelings of disappointment in a few instances are not such as is likely to cause a bolt. Some excellent men were left off the Republican ticket, but they are such men as will abide by the choice of the majority.

Dr. James Kerr was made Chairman and Mr. Carr Secretary of the Democratic meeting, and the reporters were admitted.

A committee appointed at the last meeting reported a resolution in favor of the abolition of the Board of Health and the Fire Commission, and the transfer of the duties to committees of Councils.

Also, a resolution setting forth that they will in all cases respect the wishes of the majority in interest on the line of any proposed improvement, and pledging themselves not to vote for anything tending to increase the municipal debt.

The report was adopted and a discussion was then had as to whether or not it was advisable to make nominations. It was thought that a break could be made in the City Councilmanship and the North Side Wharfmastership. On the former, however, the fact that Mr. Reno had pledged himself in voting to abide by the Republican caucus stared them in the face. Another took upon himself to say that Mr. Reno had not authorized the pledge and on this it was decided to make nominations.

On motion nominations were proceeded with, and the following is the result: City Engineer, Stephen Wheatley and Thomas F. O'Connor; North wharf, A. G Buchanan; South wharf, C. J. Reed; Superintendent, E. R. Mowry; Third Street district, R. L. Ellis; Fifth district, John Pierce; Sixth district, John Kelley; Seventh district, Wm. Donnelly; First road district, J. J. O'Donnell; Second road, John Boland.

All the offices not nominated for above were passed over without nominations. It was understood that such offices would be filled by the councilmen themselves to support certain Republican nominees should be granted a dispensation and permitted to keep their promises.

The Candidates.

Following is a list of candidates as nominated, the first named being the Republican and the second the Democratic nominees:

Engineer—A. Dempster (present incumbent), J. H. Reno.

Assessor—Thos. H. Phelps (present incumbent), K. T. Connor.

Gauger—D. M. Martin (present incumbent), No opposition.

Superintendent Water Works—James M. Atkinson (present incumbent), C. B. Mowry.

Water Assessor—C. B. Bostwick (present incumbent). No opposition.

Market Superintendent—Joseph Caskey (present incumbent). No opposition.

North Side Market Clerk—James F. Moore (present incumbent) No opposition.

South Side Market Clerk—D. L. McDonald, Thomas Ward.

North Side Wharfmaster—Fred. Jacobs, A. G. Buchanan (present incumbent).

South Side Wharfmaster—Harry Moore, Charles Evans, (present incumbent).

Building Inspector—R. M. Reed (present incumbent), no opposition.

Street Commissioners—First district, John F. Hunter, (present incumbent,) no opposition; Second district, George Linderman, (present incumbent,) no opposition; Third district, Lewis Lewis, Robert Ellis; Fifth district, Donald Emery, John Fasanon; Sixth district, Charles Ott, (present incumbent,) John Kelley; Seventh district, John Wilbert, Sr., Nicholas Fitzgerald.

Road Commissioners—First district, James M. Hunter, (present incumbent,) John O'Donnell; Second district, Richard Thompson, John Boland; Third district, W. T. Bowers, no opposition.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A WILL?

Decision in the Clark-McCully Case—Dissenting Opinion of Judges Paxson and Sharswood.

Justice Mercur delivered the opinion of the Supreme Court in the case of Frew *et al.* vs. Clark—the famous "bond of friendship" case. The following is a synopsis:

After setting the nature of the case, and various definitions of a will, Justice Mercur says:

This instrument is in writing. It is signed at the end by the testator. It is a mere matter of indebtedness. It furnishes no evidence of a debt. It contains no promise to pay. It vested no present interest. By its terms it was to take effect only after the death of McCully. In the meaning of the statute of wills it was, therefore possessed all the essential characteristics of a will, and was undoubtedly testamentary in its character.

The sixth section of the act of 8th April, 183, requires that a will, in all cases shall be proved by the oaths or affirmations of two or more competent witnesses." The act does not require that the witnesses shall have knowledge enough the body of the will be not in the handwriting of the testator. It may be proved, then, by competent witnesses, be they few in number. In this case, some fifteen witnesses testified to the authenticity of McCully's signature. Among the number was Robert D. Clark, the defendant in error. It is claimed that he was incompetent. If so, it must have been on the ground of either interest or policy. The first section of the act of 15th April, 1869, declares, "no interest or policy of law shall exclude a party from being a witness." Mr. Justice Woodward, in delivering the opinion of the court, in the case of Bowen vs. Gorandlo, 23 P. F. S., 357, the gravity of this issue would have justified the Court in reconsidering the question, but in the subsequent decision of the act of 15 April, 1869. It is possible the exception in the concluding section of the act had been fully weighed, particularly, the words "respecting the right of such deceased or any person claiming interest under him by devolution on the death of such owner." It does not appear that any question respecting the *right of the deceased owner* was submitted to the Court in Bowen vs. Gorandlo, nor do I see how any such question could arise in the case *deriving title non.* But I am not prepared to say that it is impossible; and when such question shall arise, I hold the action in the act would apply, and the parties would be competent witnesses. This view would preserve the act as a whole and avoid what I cannot but regard as a great evil. It is not too much to say that no case probably contemplated, when the act was passed, or Bowen vs. Gorandlo decided, that such result would follow. While I would sternly apply the maxim *stare decisis* in all questions affecting rules of property, depending upon a construct of Assembly, in relation to a mere question of evidence, might well have been reviewed under the circumstances.

This decision can hardly fail to startle not only the profession, but the community at large. It is now the law of Pennsylvania, that where a man produces a will, written by himself without subscribing witnesses, and wholly in his own favor, purporting to be signed by a wealthy old man who is a stranger to his family, he is not only a competent witness to sustain the will and prove the vital fact of its execution, but that proof is not required to show that the paper was read over to the testator, or that he knew its contents, explained to the testator and that the paper itself was of such a character as to convey to the mind of unlearned man not even a suggestion of its real purpose.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE IN DOUBT.

Chief Justice Agnew is in doubt as to the question of interpretation of the act of 1889, as decided in the case of Bowen vs. Gorandlo, upon which the majority of the court rely.

It is evident from these conflicting views that additional legislation is needed, so that individuals will be made more secure in their rights, and courts will have less difficulty in determining what constitutes a will.

THE Pennsylvania Editorial Association will meet at Harrisburg on the 20th inst.

SMOKY ISLAND.

Judgment of the Lower Court Affirmed—The Claimants Successful—Decision of the Supreme Court.

In the case of James K. Moorhead *et al.* vs the city of Allegheny, claiming the land known as Smoky Island, in which a verdict was obtained by the plaintiffs in the Court of Common Pleas, and appeal made by defendant, Agnew, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, has given the following affirmative opinion: The action in this case was an ejectment, and the question was one of title only. If the plaintiffs